



Understanding of Long-Term Stability

By Marek Lis
Sr Application Engineer
Texas Instruments -Tucson

Summary of Topics

- Long-Term Stability (Life-Time Shift)
 - for specs centered around a mean value
 - for parameters specified as an absolute value
- Thermal Acceleration Factor (AF)
 - Arrhenius equation and the Acceleration Factor
 - Effect of AF on the life of a product

Long-Term Stability

Normal Gaussian Distribution

Standard deviation and confidence intervals

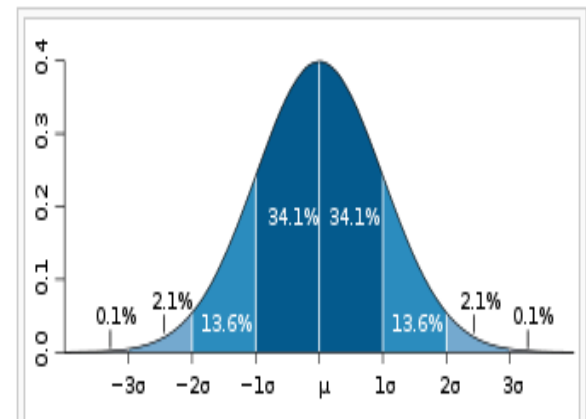
[edit]


About 68% of values drawn from a normal distribution are within one standard deviation σ away from the mean; about 95% of the values lie within two standard deviations; and about 99.7% are within three standard deviations. This fact is known as the *68-95-99.7 rule*, or the *empirical rule*, or the *3-sigma rule*. To be more precise, the area under the bell curve between $\mu - n\sigma$ and $\mu + n\sigma$ is given by

$$F(\mu + n\sigma; \mu, \sigma^2) - F(\mu - n\sigma; \mu, \sigma^2) = \Phi(n) - \Phi(-n) = \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{n}{\sqrt{2}}\right),$$

where erf is the [error function](#). To 12 decimal places, the values for the 1-, 2-, up to 6-sigma points are:^[16]

n	$\operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{n}{\sqrt{2}}\right)$	i.e. 1 minus ...	or 1 in ...
1	0.682 689 492 137	0.317 310 507 863	3.151 487 187 53
2	0.954 499 736 104	0.045 500 263 896	21.977 894 5080
3	0.997 300 203 937	0.002 699 796 063	370.398 347 345
4	0.999 936 657 516	0.000 063 342 484	15,787.192 7673
5	0.999 999 426 697	0.000 000 573 303	1,744,277.893 62
6	0.999 999 998 027	0.000 000 001 973	506,797,345.897



Dark blue is less than one [standard deviation](#) from the [mean](#). 
 For the normal distribution, this accounts for about 68% of the set, while two standard deviations from the mean (medium and dark blue) account for about 95%, and three standard deviations (light, medium, and dark blue) account for about 99.7%.

Life-Time Shift Guidelines

In a case of specs centered around zero or a mean value like Vos, Vos Drift, Vref, AOL, etc., they may shift over 10-year life up to:
+/-100% of the max (min) PDS specified value

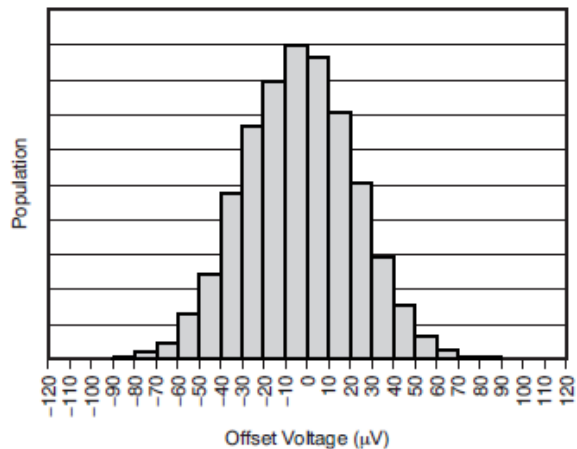
In a case of parameters specified as an absolute value like IQ, Slew Rate (SR), Isc, etc. they may shift over 10-year life up to:
+/-10% of the max (min) PDS specified value

Understanding Statistical Distributions

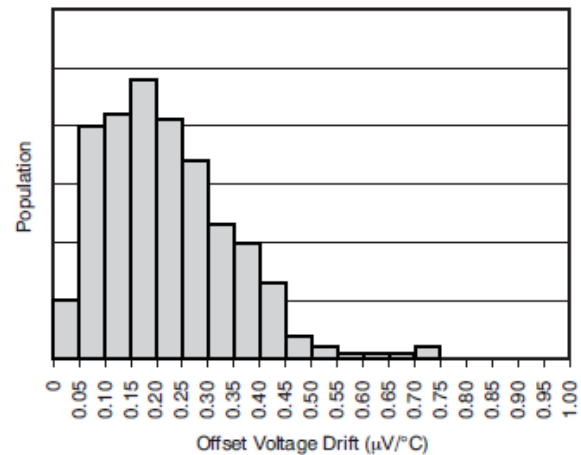
(specs centered around a zero)

PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	OPA140, OPA2140, OPA4140			UNIT
		MIN	TYP	MAX	
OFFSET VOLTAGE					
Offset Voltage, RTI	V_{OS}	$V_S = \pm 18V$	30	120	μV
Over Temperature	$V_S = \pm 18V$			220	μV
Drift	dV_{OS}/dT	$V_S = \pm 18V$	± 0.35	1.0	$\mu V/^\circ C$

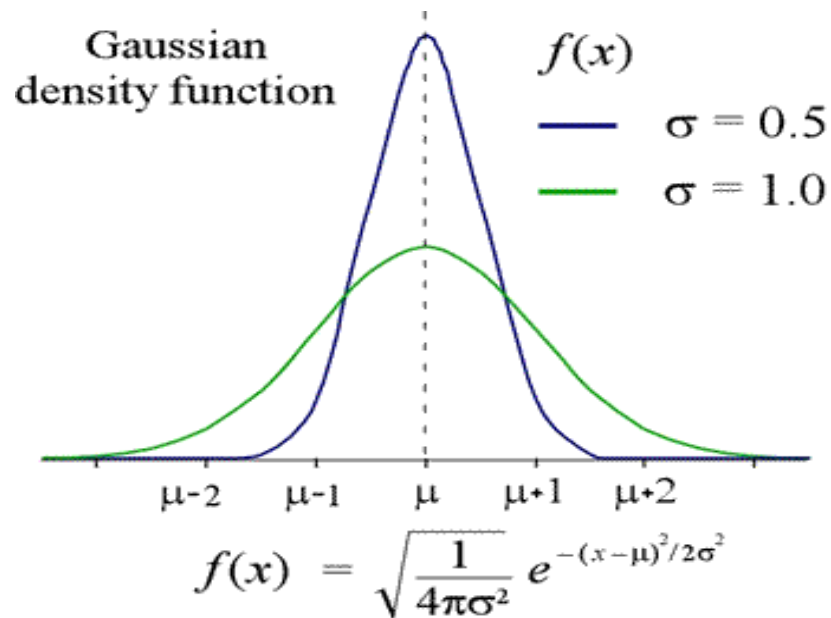
OFFSET VOLTAGE PRODUCTION DISTRIBUTION



OFFSET VOLTAGE DRIFT DISTRIBUTION



Long-Term Shift for Normal Gaussian Distributions (Centered around a Mean Value)

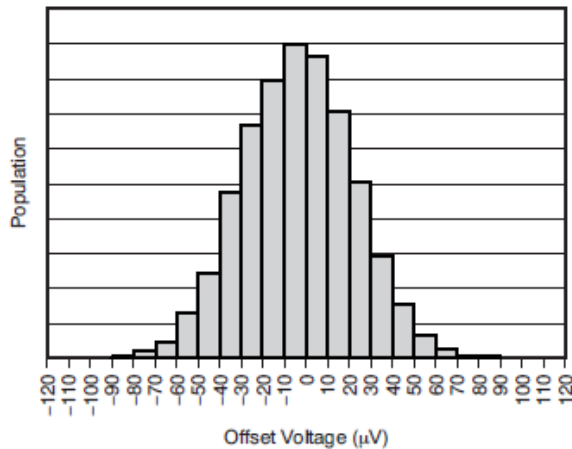


Initial PDS Distribution (blue) vs Long-Term Parametric Shift (green)

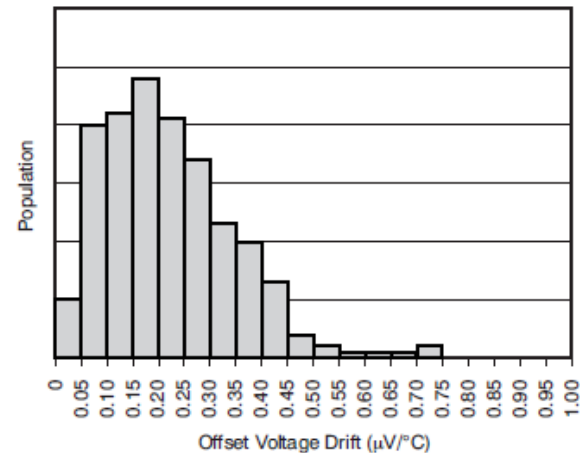
Life-Time Vos and Vos Temp Drift Shift

PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	OPA140, OPA2140, OPA4140			UNIT
		MIN	TYP	MAX	
OFFSET VOLTAGE					
Offset Voltage, RTI	V_{OS}	$V_S = \pm 18V$	30	120	μV
Over Temperature	$V_S = \pm 18V$			220	μV
Drift	dV_{OS}/dT	$V_S = \pm 18V$	± 0.35	1.0	$\mu V/^{\circ}C$

OFFSET VOLTAGE PRODUCTION DISTRIBUTION



OFFSET VOLTAGE DRIFT DISTRIBUTION



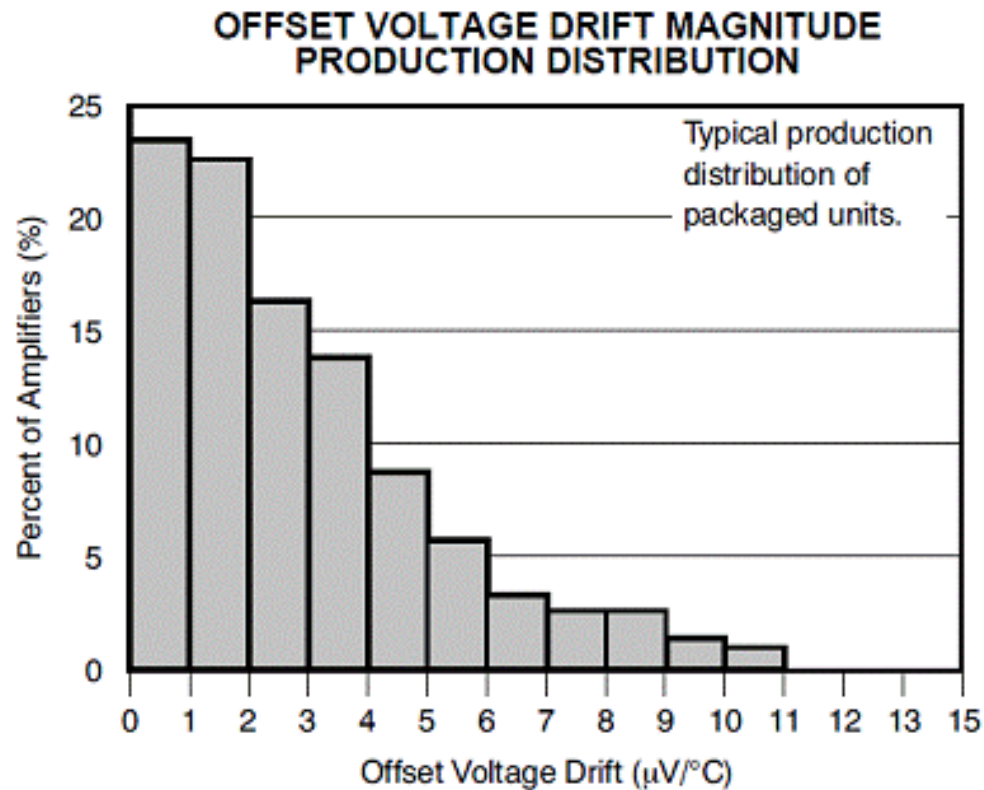
Max LT Vos = 240uV

Max LT Vos Drift = 2.0uV/C

Life-Time Max Shift (ten-year) = Max Initial Value

Long-Term Max Spec = 2 * Initial Spec

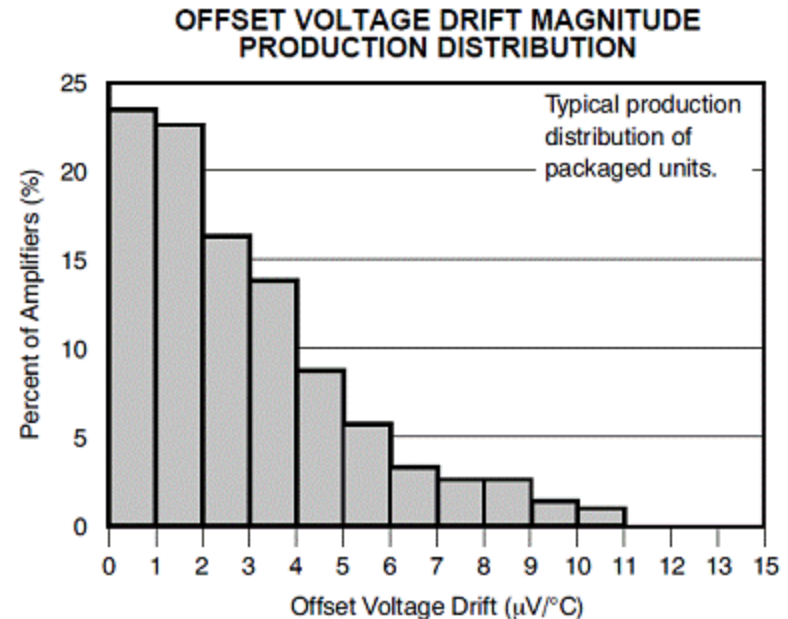
What is the Vos Drift Maximum Value?



Use of the Statistics to Determine Relative Maximum Value

Estimating a value of standard deviation (sigma)

n	$\text{erf}\left(\frac{n}{\sqrt{2}}\right)$	i.e. 1 minus ...	or 1 in ...
1	0.682 689 492 137	0.317 310 507 863	3.151 487 187 53
2	0.954 499 736 104	0.045 500 263 896	21.977 894 5080
3	0.997 300 203 937	0.002 699 796 063	370.398 347 345
4	0.999 936 657 516	0.000 063 342 484	15,787.192 7673
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6	0.999 999 998 027	0.000 000 001 973	506,797,345.897



Knowing one-sigma is about ~4uV/C, customer may assume the maximum offset drift to be:

12uV/C (3*sigma) where 1 out of 370 units will NOT meet this max spec

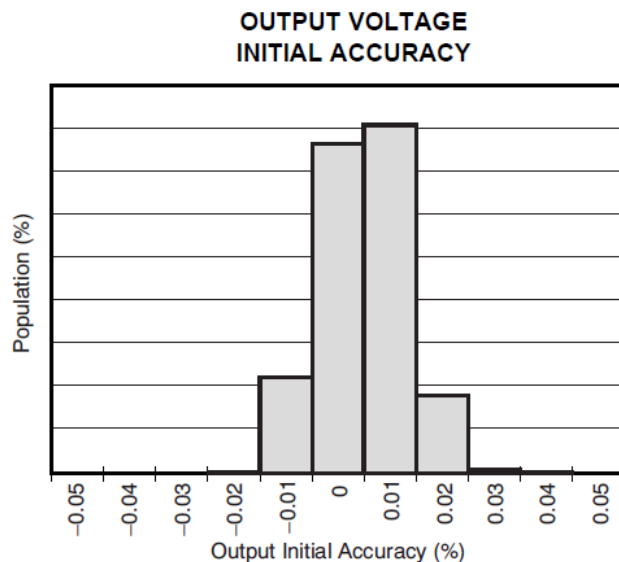
16uV/C (4*sigma) where 1 out of 15,787 units will NOT meet this max spec

20uV/C (5*sigma) where 1 out of 1,744,277 units will NOT meet this max spec

24uV/C (6*sigma) where 1 out of 506,797,345 units will NOT meet this max spec

Life-Time Reference Voltage Initial Accuracy Shift (specs centered around a mean value)

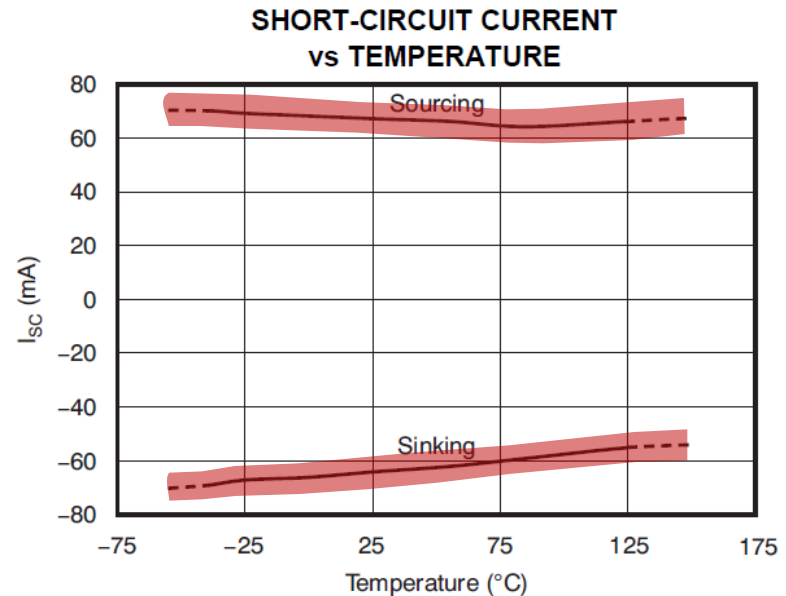
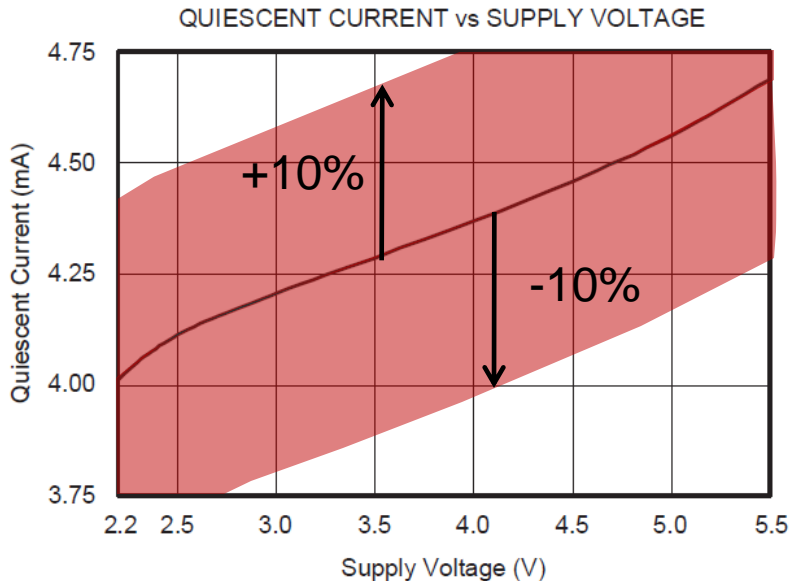
PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	PER DEVICE			UNIT
		MIN	TYP	MAX	
REF5020 ($V_{OUT} = 2.048V^{(1)}$)					
OUTPUT VOLTAGE					
Output Voltage	V_{OUT}		2.048		V
Initial Accuracy: High-Grade	$2.7V < V_{IN} < 18V$	-0.05		0.05	%



Max LT Vref = +/-0.1%

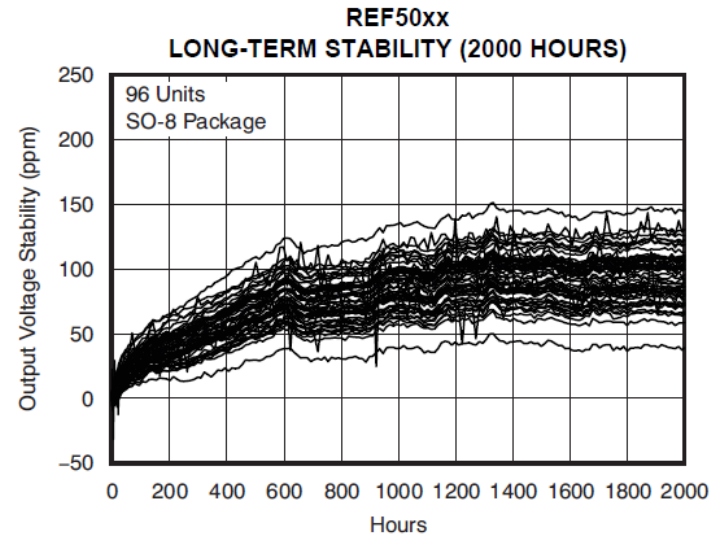
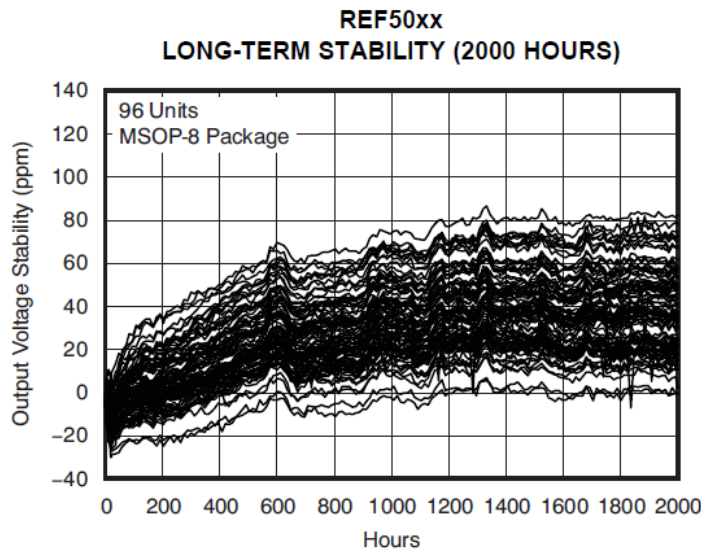
Long-Term IQ and Isc Shift (specs centered around an absolute value)

PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	OPA827AI			UNIT
		MIN	TYP	MAX	
Quiescent Current (per amplifier)	$I_{OUT} = 0A$		4.8	5.2	mA
Short-Circuit Current		± 55	± 65		mA



Long-Term Vref Stability

PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	REF50xx			UNIT
		MIN	TYP	MAX	
LONG-TERM STABILITY					
MSOP-8	0 to 1000 hours		50		ppm/1000 hr
MSOP-8	1000 to 2000 hours		5		ppm/1000 hr
SO-8	0 to 1000 hours		90		ppm/1000 hr
SO-8	1000 to 2000 hours		10		ppm/1000 hr



Life-Time Shift Formula

To illustrate the life-time shift for an actual IC, let's consider the long-term stability of the low-noise, low-drift [REF5025 precision voltage reference](#) and its output initial accuracy specification.

Figure 3 shows the initial accuracy of [REF5025](#) output voltage of $\pm 0.05\%$ and the long-term stability for 0 to 1000 hours specified at 50ppm. As explained above, the long-term shift of the [REF5025](#) must not exceed the life-test shift of $\pm 100\%$ of the max/min initial accuracy; therefore, the maximum output voltage shift after 10 years (87,600 hours), under constant operation at room temperature, must be less than $\pm 0.05\%$, or an equivalent of ± 500 ppm.

PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	REF50xx			UNIT
		MIN	TYP	MAX	
LONG-TERM STABILITY					
MSOP-8	0 to 1000 hours		50		ppm/1000 hr
MSOP-8	1000 to 2000 hours		5		ppm/1000 hr

PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	PER DEVICE			UNIT
		MIN	TYP	MAX	
REF5020 ($V_{out} = 2.048V$) TM					
OUTPUT VOLTAGE					
Output Voltage	V_{out}		2.048		V
Initial Accuracy: High-Grade	$2.7V < V_{in} < 18V$	-0.05		0.05	%

Figure 3 - Excerpts from [REF5025](#) datasheet

Since the long-term shift clearly cannot be a linear function of time and simultaneously satisfy both conditions, the shift rate must initially be higher (having a steeper slope) and then gradually slow down (becoming more linear) over time. Therefore, it may be estimated by the square-root function normalized to 1000th of hours and shown below in Figure 4.

$$\text{Output Voltage Shift} = 50\text{ppm} \cdot \sqrt{[\text{time}(\text{hours})/1000\text{hrs}]}$$

Life-Time Shift Graph

$$\text{Output Voltage Shift} = 50\text{ppm} \cdot \sqrt{[\text{time}(\text{hours})/1000\text{hrs}]}$$

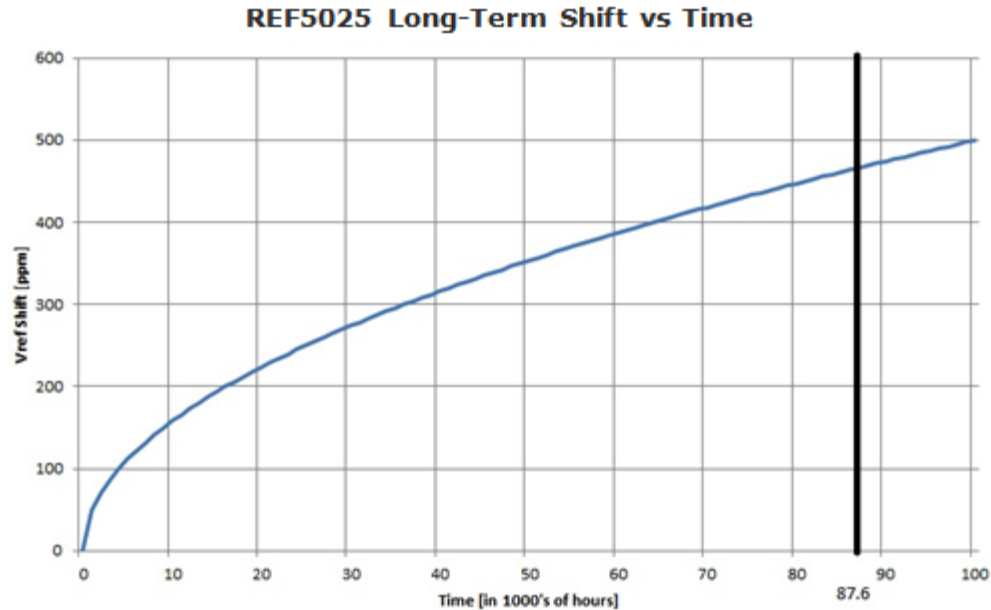


Figure 4 – REF5025 long-term stability

For example, after 25,000 hours of nonstop operation in the field, the typical output voltage shift in the REF5025 can be calculated using above equation, $50\text{ppm} \cdot \sqrt{25} = 250\text{ppm}$, while after 10 years (87,600 hours) the shift would be $50\text{ppm} \cdot \sqrt{87.6} = 468\text{pp}$. Therefore, at the end-of-life the REF5025 output voltage shift as expected is within the 500ppm allowable shift which equals to 0.05% of the datasheet maximum initial accuracy spec.

Life-Time Shift Rule Summary

You may estimate the maximum expected parametric shift over any given period of time by using:

- **100% of the max (min) PDS guaranteed value in the case of specs centered around a mean value** (V_{os} , V_{os} Drift, V_{ref} , AOL, etc.)
- **10% of the max (min) guaranteed value for parameters specified as an absolute value** (IQ, slew rate, I_{sc} , etc).

One may pro-rate the shift based on the expected ten-year life of the product

It needs to be understood that the long-term shift is NOT exactly a linear function of time – the shift is greater (curve is steeper) initially and slows down (become linear) over time. Therefore, the linear character of shift usually excludes the first month due to continuing self-curing of the molding compound used for packaging of IC.

Acceleration Factor

HTOL (High Temperature Operating Life)

- HTOL is used to measure the constant failure rate region at the bottom of the bathtub curve as well as to assess the wear-out phase of the curve for some use conditions.
- Smaller sample sizes than EFR but are run for a much longer duration
- Jedec and QSS default are $T_a=125C$ for 1000 hours
- Q100 calls for 1000 hours at max temperature for the device's grade
- Most modern IC's undergo HTOL at $T_a=150C$ for 300 hours

The Arrhenius Equation

The Arrhenius equation is a simple, but remarkably accurate, formula for the temperature dependence of the reaction rate constant of a process.

$$\text{Process Rate (PR)} = Ae^{-(Ea/kT)}$$

A = A constant

Ea = Thermal activation energy in electron-volts (eV)

k = Boltzman's constant, 8.62×10^{-5} eV/K

T = Absolute temperature in degrees Kelvin (Deg C + 273.15)

Acceleration Factor

Acceleration Factors are the ratio of the Process Rate at two temperatures.

$$AF(T1 \text{ to } T2) = PR2 / PR1 = Ae^{-(Ea/kT2)} / Ae^{-(Ea/kT1)}$$

$$AF(T1 \text{ to } T2) = e^{(Ea/k)(1/T1 - 1/T2)}$$

A = A constant (has canceled out of the formula)

Ea = Thermal activation energy in electron volts (eV)

k = Boltzman's constant, 8.62×10^{-5} eV/K

T = Absolute temperature in degrees Kelvin (degrees C + 273.15)

Acceleration Factors (example 1)

Calculate the thermal acceleration factor (AF) between the stress test temperature at 150C and the product operating temperature at 65C:

T1 (application) = 65C -> 338K

T2 (life-test stress) = 150C -> 423K

Ea=0.7eV

$$\mathbf{AF(65C\ to\ 150C)} = e^{(0.7\text{eV}/8.62 \times 10^{-5})(1/338 - 1/423)} = \mathbf{125}$$

This means every hour of stress at 150C is equivalent to 125 hours of use in the application at 65C.

Thus, for example, 300 hour life-test at 150C would cause similar shift as 37,500 hours (125*300hrs), or about 4 years, in the field at 65C.

Acceleration Factors (example 2)

Calculate the thermal acceleration factor (AF) between the stress test temperature at 150C and the product operating temperature at 100C:

T1 (application) = 100C -> 373K

T2 (life-test stress) = 150C -> 423K

Ea=0.7eV

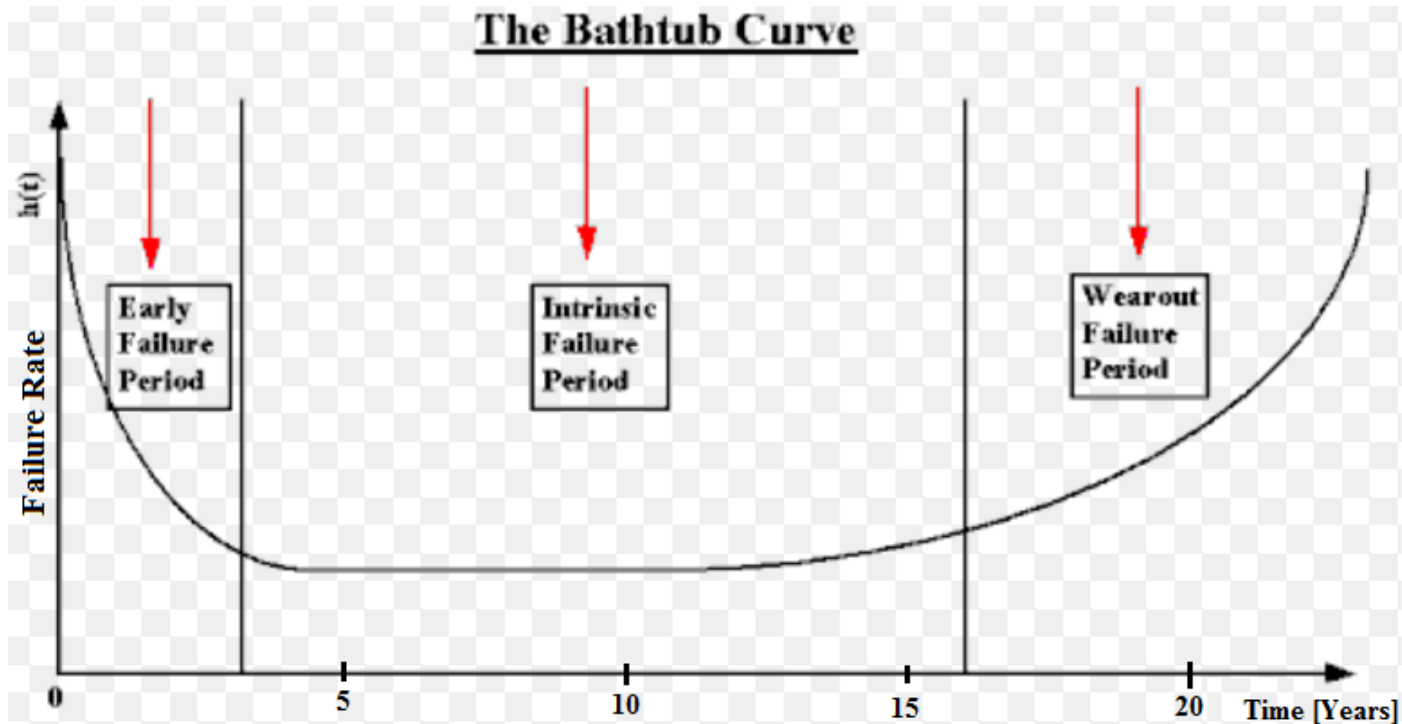
$$\mathbf{AF(100C\ to\ 150C) = e^{(0.7eV/k)(1/373 - 1/423)} = 13}$$

This means every hour of stress at 150C is equivalent to 13 hours of use in the application at 100C.

Thus, for example, 300 hour life-test at 150C would cause similar shift as 3,900 hours (13*300hrs), less than 6 month, in the field at 100C.

Semiconductor Quality and Reliability

Part number	Early life failure rate	MTBF / FIT		Early life failure rate supporting data				MTBF / FIT supporting data						
	ELFR-DPPM	MTBF	FIT	Conf level (%)	Test temp (°C)	Sample size	Fails	Usage temp (°C)	Conf level (%)	Activation energy (eV)	Test temp (°C)	Test duration (hours)	Sample size	Fails
OPA192ID	22	4.89×10^9	0.2	60	125	41306	0	55	60.0	0.7	125	1000	57098	0



Questions ?

Comments, Questions, Technical Discussions Welcome:

Marek Lis

(520)-750-2162

lis_marek@ti.com